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Robert M. Best

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CONFIRMATION NO.

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Date Mailed: March 18, 2004

Decision Granting Petition under 37 CFR 1.138(c)The declaration of express abandonment is recognized

This is in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.138(c) that was filed on March 16, 2004, express abandonment to avoid publication of the above-identified application.

The petition is granted.

The express abandonment is recognized and the application has been withdrawn from publication.

A notice of abandonment will be mailed in due course.

Telephone inquiries should be directed to the Office of Patent Publication, the Pre-Grant Publication Division, at 703-605-4283.

Barbara J. Debnam

Pre-Grant Publication Division Office of Patent Publication